



November 16, 2020

Honourable Patty Hajdu
Minister of Health
Email: hcminister.ministresc@canada.ca

Honourable David Lametti
Minister of Justice and Attorney General
Email: David.Lametti@parl.gc.ca

Honourable Bill Blair
Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness
269 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0P8

Re: Unlicensed and Unmonitored Cannabis Grow Operations

Dear Ministers,

At the regular council meeting of November 2, 2020, Council reviewed the attached correspondence from the Township of Blandford-Blenheim. As a result of their review Council passed the following resolution,

R20-11-413

Moved By Deputy Mayor Meloche
Seconded By Councillor Verbeek

That the resolution from the Township of Blandford-Blenheim, dated October 13, 2020 urging the Federal Government to amend existing legislation that allows large scale cannabis grow operations to be established and operated without any of the regulations or protocol, to ensure the safety and rights of the local communities in which they are situated are respected, be received and supported; and

That a letter of support be sent to the Federal Minister of Health, the Federal Minister of Justice and Attorney General, the Federal Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, Essex MP Chris Lewis, Essex MPP Taras Natyshak and a copy of the letter be sent to the Township of Blandford-Blenheim.

Carried



Please accept this letter as the Town of Essex's support for the modification of the current regulations that allow large scale cannabis grow operations to be established and operated without the regulations or protocol that licensed and monitored operations must adhere to and without the appropriate consultation with local communities and their municipalities or protocol.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Auger", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert W. Auger, L.L.B.
Town Solicitor/Legal and Legislative Services, Clerk
Ext. 1132
Email: rauger@essex.ca

RWA/lam

Enclosure

c.c. Chris Lewis, Essex MPP
Email: chris.lewis@parl.gc.ca

Taras Natyshak, Essex MPP
Email: tnatyshak-qp@ndp.on.ca



Township of Blandford-Blenheim

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Fax: 519-463-5881
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October 13, 2020

Emailed to the Federal Minister of Health, Federal Minister of Justice and Attorney General, Federal Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, Oxford MP, Oxford MPP, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all municipalities in Ontario.

Re: Unlicensed and unmonitored cannabis grow operations

Please be advised that at the Regular Meeting of Council on October 7th, 2020, the Council of the Township of Blandford-Blenheim passed the following resolution:

Resolution Number: 2020-14

Moved by: Councillor Nancy Demarest

Seconded by: Councill Bruce Banbury

“That Whereas unlicensed and unmonitored cannabis grow operations have increasingly become a problem in communities in Ontario as well as across the Country; and,

Whereas these operations are allowed to establish with little or no consultation with the local community and municipalities are often only made aware of their existence after conflicts arise with neighboring land owners; and,

Whereas loopholes in existing Federal legislation allow these large scale grow op’s to establish and operate without any of the regulations or protocols that licensed and monitored operations need to adhere to,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of Blandford-Blenheim urges the Federal Government to amend the legislation under which these facilities operate to ensure the safety and rights of the local communities in which they are situated are respected; and,

That this resolution be forwarded to the Federal Minister of Health, Federal Minister of Justice and Attorney General, Federal Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, Oxford MP, Oxford MPP, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and all municipalities in Ontario.”

Regards,

Sarah Matheson
Deputy Clerk
Township of Blandford-Blenheim